

memorandum

DATE: July 2, 1987

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: Acting ARD-Refuges and Wildlife, FWS, Atlanta, GA (WHM)

SUBJECT: Regional Fire Dispatch Plan

TO: All Refuge Managers, FWS, Region 4

Attached is an updated version of the Regional Fire Dispatch Plan. The original plan was sent out in June 1984, and since that time some of the key contacts and phone numbers have changed. The plan outlines the proper procedures to use when requesting help during an emergency fire situation.

The procedures are relatively simple and straightforward, but should you have any questions on implementation, please call Howard Poitevint at FTS 242-0830, or commercial 404/331-0830.

Philip Morgan

Attachment

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ST. VINCENT NATIONAL
WILDLIFE REFUGE

REGION 4 FIRE DISPATCH PLAN

A. Introduction

The purpose of this plan is to detail the proper procedures for obtaining emergency help during wildfire suppression. With the 1240 Fund which we now have, there is no reason for any refuge to go without manpower or equipment in an emergency fire situation. Many refuges currently have contracts with the State divisions of forestry and they should be the first source of help. We also have a nationwide agreement with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and all Department of the Interior agencies to furnish help during wildfire suppression with no cross-agency charges. If men and/or equipment are furnished for presuppression, the benefiting agency will be charged.

The objective of this plan is to ensure the cost efficient use of available fire support services. In most cases, the closest resource will be used, but consideration will be given to the use of distant resources to avoid excessive commitments from units with critical fire weather or suppression activities.

B. Procedures for Requesting Support

If a wildfire exceeds your suppression capabilities, you should request help in the following sequence:

- a. State Division of Forestry. Your local Division of Forestry is the first place you should go for help.
- b. Neighboring Refuges. If your State Division of Forestry is unable to help you, aid from nearby refuges should be solicited. If the neighboring unit is unable to respond, call the Regional Fire Management Coordinator (RFMC).
- c. Regional Fire Management Coordinator, Howard Poitevint.
Office: (404) 331-0830 (Commercial)
 242-0830 (FTS)
Home: (404) 979-8495 (Commercial)
 (404) 979-8495 (FTS)

The RFMC will attempt to obtain help from other U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service installations in the Region. If help is not available internally, the RFMC will authorize you to request help from the U.S. Forest Service Region 8 Dispatch Center in Atlanta, Georgia. If your fire occurs outside normal working hours and you are unable to contact the RFMC, you are authorized to go directly to the Region 8 Dispatch Center with your request.

- d. U.S. Forest Service, Region 8 Dispatch Center, Mark Toliver, Regional Dispatcher
Office: 242-4243 (FTS)
(404) 347-4243 (24-hour Answering Service)

The Region 8 Dispatch Center will obtain the necessary manpower and/or equipment for you from the closest available source. The source may be the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, or even contract, but they will find what you need. If your needs are not available in the Southern Region, the Region 8 dispatcher will make a Fire Order request to the Boise Interagency Fire Center. The only time you should contact BIFC Logistics Support directly would be if you are unable to contact Region 8 Dispatch.

- e. BIFC Logistics Support
(208) 334-9401 (Commercial)
554-9401 (FTS)

Once again, the only time you should contact BIFC directly is if for some reason you are unable to contact the Region 8 Dispatch Center.

C. Notification of Refuge Supervisor

The respective refuge supervisors need to be kept informed of large fire situations at all times. If you are working through the RFMC, he will keep the responsible refuge supervisor informed. However, if you are working through your State Division of Forestry or Region 8 Dispatch, you should inform your supervisor at the earliest opportunity. You do not need to go through your supervisor when requesting help, but as soon as the situation allows you should contact him. The supervisors' home telephone numbers are:

<u>District</u>	<u>Supervisor</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
1-AR, KY, TN	John Oberheu	(404) 998-5642
2-MS, LA	Sam Drake	(404) 972-2009
3-NC, SC, PR	Travis McDaniel	(404) 979-0523
4-FL	Bill Grabill	(404) 487-2481
5-AL, GA	Don Adams	(404) 972-3062